AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1.   (Original) A method of quantifying a color in a sample comprising multiple colors, the method comprising:

measuring a color channel value in a plurality of pixels from a plurality of control samples comprising a single color of interest;

defining a vector for each of the plurality of control samples, wherein each vector comprises an average of each color channel value present in the control;

defining a matrix comprising each of the averages for each of the color channels;
defining a conversion matrix comprising the inverse of the matrix based upon the control measurements;

measuring color channel values in an image of an experimental sample comprising a plurality of colors of interest, each of the pixels comprising a plurality of color channels; and

calculating the amount of a color in the experimental sample by converting the channel values in the experimental sample using the conversion matrix.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color channels comprise red, green, and blue.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each control is stained with a single staining reagent to generate a color of interest.

2

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the experimental sample is stained with a plurality of stains to generate a plurality of colors of interest.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the number of stains in a experimental sample are less than or equal to the number of color channels.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein an image of the experimental sample is displayed as a monochrome image.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising setting all but one of the color ~~channels~~ channel values to zero (0), thereby determining the amount of a single color in the experimental sample.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising rendering a digital display of the experimental sample.

9.   (Original) A computer implemented method of claim 1.

10.   (Original) A computer program on computer readable medium comprising instructions to cause a computer to:

measure a color channel value in a plurality of pixels from a plurality of control samples comprising a single color of interest;

define a vector for each of the plurality of control samples, wherein each vector comprises an average of each color channel value present in the control;

define a matrix comprising each of the averages for each of the color channels;

define a conversion matrix comprising the inverse of the matrix based upon the control measurements;

measure color channel values in an image of an experimental sample comprising a plurality of colors of interest, each of the pixels comprising a plurality of color channels;

calculating the amount of a color in the experimental sample by converting the channel values in the experimental sample using the conversion matrix; and

3

outputting the amount of a color in the experimental sample.

11.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, wherein the color channels comprise red, green, and blue.

12.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, wherein each control is stained with a single staining reagent to generate a color of interest.

13.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, wherein the experimental sample is stained with a plurality of stains to generate a plurality of colors of interest.

14.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, wherein the number of stains in a experimental sample are less than or equal to the number of color channels.

15.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, wherein an image of the experimental sample is displayed as a monochrome image.

16.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable program of claim 10, further comprising setting all but one of the color ~~channels~~ channel values to zero (0), thereby determining the amount of a single color in the experimental sample.

17.   (Original) The computer readable program of claim 10, further comprising rendering a digital display of the experimental sample.

18.   (Original) A machine vision system for automated analysis of a biological sample on a slide comprising:

a computer comprising:

a system processor;

a computer program on computer readable medium, the computer program comprising an image algorithm comprising instructions to cause the computer to:

measure a color channel value in a plurality of pixels from a plurality of control samples comprising a single color of interest;

4

define a vector for each of the plurality of control samples, wherein each vector comprises an average of each color channel value present in the control;

define a matrix comprising each of the averages for each of the color channels;

define a conversion matrix comprising the inverse of the matrix based upon the control measurements;

measure color channel values in an image of an experimental sample comprising a plurality of colors of interest, each of the pixels comprising a plurality of color channels;

calculating the amount of a color in the experimental sample by converting the channel values in the experimental sample using the conversion matrix; and

outputting the amount of a color in the experimental sample;

a monitor in operable communication with the computer; and an input device in communication with the computer; an optical system in operable communication with the computer, comprising: a movable stage;

an automated loading and unloading member for loading and unloading of a slide;

an identification member;

an optical sensing array in optical communication with the stage configured to acquire an image at a location on a slide and in electrical communication with the processor;

a storage member for storing the location of a candidate object or area of interest; and

a storage device for storing each image.

19.-21. (Cancelled)

22.   (Original) An automated image analysis system comprising the computer implemented method of claim 9.

23.   (Cancelled)

5